



**WILLIAM ROCKHILL
NELSON GALLERY OF
ART and MARY ATKINS
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**

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GALLERY NEWS

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GALLERY NEWS

April

1942

THE FRIDAY EVENING OPENINGS are proving a marked success. The attendance has averaged over 150 an evening and it is noted that a new group of Gallery visitors is taking advantage of these opportunities to become acquainted with the collections. The following events are scheduled for April:

April 3 - 7:45, Gallery Talk: "The Uprising"
by Daumier, Gallery 14
8:15, Concert: Kansas City WPA
Concert Orchestra.

April 10 - 7:45, Gallery Talk: The Burnap
Collection, Ceramics Room
8:15, Concert: Phi Mu Alpha Sin-
fonia

April 17 - 7:45, Gallery Talk: "Spanish Bal-
let" by Manet, Gallery 14
8:15, Concert: "The Morning of the
Year", quartet song-cycle by Kan-
sas City Conservatory of Music.

April 24 - 7:45, Gallery Talk: The Main Chin-
ese Gallery.
8:15, Concert: Pupils of Mrs. Miles
Blin.

LOAN EXHIBITIONS:

Defense Photographs: With the cooperation of North American Aviation, Inc., the Gallery will exhibit in the central loan gallery a large group of photographs of the several Bomber, Fighter and Trainer Plants of Englewood, Dallas and Kansas City. As far as is known, this is the first cooperation of Art and the Defense Program in the present emergency.

This exhibition is especially timely and will prove of enormous interest. Everyone has admired

the streamlined architecture of the Peirce plant and this is the first opportunity to see the wheels revolve from the inside. The exhibition will open on Sunday, April 5th and continue through the 30th. After this initial showing in Kansas City, it is planned to circulate the group through the country. The Gallery is honoured in being chosen to inaugurate this show.

All of these photographs have been passed by the government officials. They have been taken by and under the supervision of Carl Conley. There will be several groups of them based on various themes such as Women In Aviation, From Box Car to Bomber, Engines, etc. Smaller photographs will be grouped about central photographs. Stunning colour effects and time-chrones will also be shown.

Paintings by Negro Artists - A most interesting group of twenty pictures by Negro Artists will be exhibited in the north loan gallery for the month of April. These were first shown in New York last October at the Harlem Galleries and since then have been circulated to several museums. The interest in the work of Negro Artists is new and their very definite talent for painting has only recently been appreciated.

Some of the artists paint with the sophistication of a Paris background, others reveal a primitive quality which is inherent in their race. William Johnson is perhaps the best known name. He was born in South Carolina and has traveled all over Europe where his pictures are owned by many museums and where he is better known than in America. Ronald Johnson, although a graduate of Pratt Institute, was an elevator operator when his first picture was sold from the exhibition. Norman Lewis paints with a simplification that recalls Picasso, yet his home and usual theme is Harlem. His "Louie" is especially fine.

Charles Davis traveled and worked in circuses

and now paints after his daily labor. His canvases are owned by Mrs. Roosevelt. "Hester's House" by William Carter is a beautifully integrated landscape. The most interesting primitive of the group is Fred Hollingsworth. He was working as a janitor when an architect helped him with paints and suggestions. His "Lagoon" is crude but powerful.

French Paintings: For the month of April, the fourth loan gallery will be installed with a group of 19th and 20th century French paintings. A rich "Scene on the Lake of Geneva" by Delacroix and a colourful "The Seine at Argenteuil" by Renoir which have just arrived from the Portland, Oregon, Museum, will be hung for the first time. Included also will be Van Gogh's "L'Arlésienne" and the powerful Cezanne Still-life, "Pot of Geraniums with Fruit". "The Drinker", a characteristic and opalescent Daumier which has been lent anonymously will also be exhibited for the first time. The Derain, Dufy, de la Frenaye, Bonnard, Vuillard and Purvis de Chavannes from the Phillips Memorial Gallery will also be included. Combined with the French paintings now on exhibition in Gallery 16, this will make an especially effective group.

MASTERPIECE ROOM:

"The Uprising" by Daumier: According to the consensus of opinion, Daumier's masterpiece is his great "Uprising" in the Phillips Memorial Gallery. This has just arrived at the Gallery for an indefinite loan and will be featured in the Masterpiece Room for the first two weeks of April.

It was discovered in the 1920's in Paris in the neighborhood where Daumier had lived and made his world-famous lithographs. It was immediately hailed by the critic Arsène Alexandre as "the most important work we know or are ever likely to know of Daumier" and Mr. Phillips rates it the greatest painting in his collection. Mather has described it as follows: "It is one of the world's greatest pictures. This is not a mob. It is the mob of all times. We think of Michelangelo at the smoke-stained end of the Sistine Chapel."

"The Uprising" was delayed in New York where a colour reproduction was being made of it. Now it is in Kansas City to give us still another insight into the genius of this great humanitarian, this simple Parisian who has often been called the Rembrandt of the 19th century.

"The Spanish Ballet" by Manet: "During the summer of 1862 a troupe of Spanish dancers triumphed at the Hippodrome in Paris. It was a success similar to that of the Russian Ballet of our own period. The painters were among the most enthusiastic admirers of the performance and young Edouard Manet was inspired to create adventure with his already brilliant brush and courageous colour. He dared to ask the Spaniards to pose for him, singly and together, at his studio, and the results are important landmarks in the history of modern painting. The canvas entitled "Ballet Espagnol", on which was shown the ensemble before the footlights, was finished with spontaneous ecstasy in 1862 and is an example of Manet's astonishing genius in its earliest phase."

So writes Duncan Phillips of his justly famous Manet. This painting is now in Kansas City and will be featured in the Masterpiece Room for the last two weeks of April.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURES:

April 1 : Chinese Architecture: Of all the ancient civilizations of the world, the Chinese alone have retained and developed an order of architecture limited to construction in wood. They have evolved a construction that is at once functional and employs to the best advantage the natural qualities of wood. The lecture will consider the basic principals of Chinese architecture and especially the way in which different kinds of buildings are suited to the Chinese way of life. The lecture will emphasize domestic architecture rather than the better known temple and palace styles.

April 8: Chinese Furniture and Decorative Arts.

Until recent years, the only Chinese furniture known in the West was either the elaborate 18th century palace style, or the ornate and often grotesque furniture of the late 19th century Chinese, equivalent to our own Victorian style. But there is quite another kind of furniture still little known outside China. It is simple, structural and displays the finest kind of cabinetry. This lecture will illustrate the general types of such furniture and the styles and arrangements of Chinese domestic interiors.

April 15: Chinese Porcelain and Pottery. Chinese ceramics are universally recognized to be unrivalled in the world and the products of the Chinese potter have been famous in the Near East and Europe since the 14th century. The lecture will cover the main types from the wares of the Sung dynasty on through the decorated porcelains of Ming and Ch'ing periods. In addition to the identification of the various kinds of porcelain, the lecture will touch on the part these ceramics have played in both Chinese and European decorative arts.

April 22: Chinese Textiles. Since the Nelson Gallery collection of Chinese textiles is one of the largest in America, this lecture will be illustrated almost entirely by examples in the Gallery. After a general discussion of the historical development of different techniques in weaving, the lecture will consider the various kinds of Chinese costume and especially the square insignia of official rank, known as "Mandarin Squares". A special exhibition of textiles will be installed in Gallery XXIV further to illustrate the material of this lecture.

April 29: General Survey and the Gallery Collection. This will be the last lecture of the series on Chinese art. Using only material from the Nelson Gallery collection, the lecture will aim at summing up the principal features of Chinese art through the centuries. The lecture will trace the continuity and flow of Chinese art through its changing phases and show in a single presentation

the way the Gallery collection illustrates almost four thousand years of Chinese creative activity.

GALLERY CHANGES: Famous paintings and great treasures continue to come to the Gallery from other museums for safe keeping. As soon as is practicable, these will be announced to the public through the press and put on exhibition:

Paintings of the American Revolution: From the point of view of our country's history, the most important loan is the group of paintings and miniatures by John Trumbull, sent here from the Yale University Art Gallery. Such subjects as The Declaration of Independence, The Battle of Bunker's Hill, and The Surrender of Cornwallis are familiar to all of us through their reproduction in every school history. These are the original oil studies made by Trumbull, who, as Washington's aide de camp, was an eye witness of the events that he pictured. They are thus America's most cherished heritage of a glorious period.

Exquisite, too, is a series of miniatures, all painted from life. Included here are Martha Washington, her grand-daughter, Eleanor Custis, the daughters of Chief Justice Chew and five officers from the Continental Army. Special interest will attach to a small self-portrait of Benjamin West, the father of American painting, done when he was 18. These are all installed in the East Corridor of the second floor, with a fine portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart, lent by E. A. Levinson and family, and a revealing portrait of Benjamin Franklin by Greuze, an anonymous loan, painted when Franklin was the American ambassador at the French court.

The Yale University has also sent here its greatest single painting, The Rape of Deianira by Antonio Pollaiuolo, the progressive Florentine painter of the 15th century. It is the only painting in America by this sculptor-painter who made such important researches in anatomy. It

is a departure in Renaissance painting in that the scene is laid in the valley of the Arno with walled Florence in the background. Here, too, is depicted the first water in Western painting that actually flows. This panel was part of the great Jarves Collection which was purchased by Yale in 1871 and has been hung in Gallery I.

Italian Paintings: A selection of early paintings from the Lehman Collection has been installed in Gallery 13. This includes the great Coronation and Expulsion by Giovanni di Paolo, the brilliant Enthroned Madonna by Crivelli, the exquisite Madonna and Child by Bellini and the pair of portraits by Cossa.

Whistler Prints from the Harris Whittemore Collection: For the month of April, the fourth selection of Whistler Etchings from the Harris Whittemore Collection will be installed in the Print Galleries.

These date from the years 1879 and 1880. Particularly interesting is a plate (M. 167) of the actor Sir Henry Irving as Phillip of Spain. Whistler had painted the same subject in oil and it was one that held great interest for him. A self-portrait (M. 169) so-called with the look of white hair, shows a more familiar Whistler and the features are closer to those in the Gallery drawing.

The majority of the prints of the series are of his Venetian scenes, certainly his best known and most popular. Now his full powers as an etcher have been developed, the sensitive, delicate line, the ability to tell the full story with the simplest statement. They suggest the silvery, opalescent beauty of that fascinating city and awaken a host of nostalgic memories of one of the most fairy-like spots in the entire world. In these plates we see Whistler at his best.

GALLERY NOTES:

The Bureau Services of the Western Area Association Convention will meet in the Gallery on Thursday, April 15th. The Director will speak on "Problems in the America of Tomorrow" and preside over the closing of the Sixth World Congress which will be held under the sponsorship of King of Nepal. The Association will influence in the coming of the City for the convention because of the Gallery and its collection.

The Director spent the balance of the year in December, as well as the summer on the Executive Foundation, who will have to be available to both of us in 1964.

The 1946-47 visitor passed through the
primary turnstile on Wednesday evening,
Jan. 16. This record fell in line with
seasonal River Falls. It is the only
pre-war visit to the on record at
this time.

Only one person is known to be in receipt of the
included Philippine Daily Inquirer article. The
Yale University Library of Manuscripts and Archives
Tay or Arroyo. The article is dated 1998 and
testimony and information from Rodrigo Duterte
and his associates and others in the Philippines.
The evidence I have seen is not a copy of the
original document but a copy of a copy of the
original document. I have taken some of the
evidence that you have done in the Philippines.

PRINTEDS OF ART:

The poster will meet with the Director of the Negro Loan Gallery on Thursday morning, April 10th at 10:00 A.M. At this time the interesting exhibition of paintings by Negro Artists will be discussed and a visit will be made to the Westside Room to see the Dunbar paintings and the sculpture.

The second meeting will be on April 16th at 11:00 A.M. At this time the Director will speak on the fascinating subject of the cleaning and restoration of paintings. This will be illustrated with examples from the collection and coloured lantern slides. Members are urged to bring guests to these meetings who may be interested in joining the Friends of Art.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT:

April 11th brings to a close the winter schedule of Saturday morning classes. Parents of class members and other adults are cordially invited to attend the production of the marionette class in Atkins Auditorium at 10:30 A.M. that morning. The class, under Miss Martha Abbott's able direction, has written and is producing its own play about various Gallery objects.

Again this summer we will offer classes for boys and girls of seven years and over. They will be held on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings from ten until twelve, for six weeks during June and July. The registration date for these classes will be during the first week of June and will be announced in the June News Bulletin.

The Saturday Afternoon Programs for children continue through the first two weeks in April. The program on April 4th will include a motion picture and slides on Spain, covering the great artists of that country represented in the Gallery collections. On the afternoon of April 11th, the final Marionette play of the season will be presented by the Marionette Players under the direction of Miss Barbara Barton of the Gallery Staff. The play is an exciting story of early America, laid at the colonial capital, Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1738. It is adapted from the historical novel, "Diantha's Signet Ring" By Gertrude Crownfield. The costumes and sets are authentic reproductions of this most interesting

period in our American history. Both programs start at 3:00 P M. and last approximately an hour.

THE LITTLE MUSEUM FOR YOUNG MODERNS:

High School Photography Exhibition: April brings a shower of photographs from Junior and Senior High Schools in and around Kansas City. The camera fans have been increasingly active during the winter and since the restrictions on film are making the "snapper" more conscious of his work, better pictures are being produced, especially by those energetic young people from our High Schools. A selected group of these photographs will go on exhibit in the Little Museum on April 5th and will continue through the month.

EASTER MUSIC:

The Westport High School a cappella choir under the direction of Mr. Harling Spring will give a concert of Easter Music on Sunday, April 5th in Kirkwood Hall at 2:30 P M.

CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Wed.	1	-	8:00	-	Lecture - Chinese Architecture Mr. Sickman
Thurs.	2	-	11:00	-	Loan Gallery. Friends of Art
"	2	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Fri.	3	-	8:15	-	Concert - W.P.A. Orchestra
Sat.	4	-	3:00	-	Picture Show - Spain
Sun.	5	-	3:30	-	Concert - Gabor Rejto, violin
Mon.	6	-	4:00	-	Library - Oriental Art
Tues.	7	-	2:00	-	Asiatic Study Group
"	7	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Wed.	8	-	8:00	-	Lecture - Chinese Furniture and Decorative Arts - Mr. Sickman
Thurs.	9	-	10:00	-	Library - Socrates: Delphi
"	9	-	2:00	-	Auditorium - Western Art
"	9	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Fri.	10	-	8:15	-	Concert - Phi Kappa Alpha
Sat.	11	-	10:30	-	Marionette Play - "They Come to Life at Night"
"	11	-	3:00	-	Marionette Play - "Disaster's Signal Ring"
Sun.	12	-	3:30	-	Concert - Pupils of Stanley Deaton and Dorothy Perkins
Mon.	13	-	4:00	-	Library - Oriental Art
Tues.	14	-	10:00	-	Room B. - Socrates: Delphi
"	14	-	10:00	-	Library - Book Club
"	14	-	1:00	-	Library - Art Study Club
"	14	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Wed.	15	-	8:00	-	Lecture - Chinese Pottery and Porcelain - Mr. Sickman
Thurs.	16	-	11:00	-	Library - Friends of Art
"	16	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Fri.	17	-	8:15	-	Concert - "Evening of the Zephyr" Quartet Song-cyrene
Sat.	18	-	3:30	-	Concert - Phi Phi Epsilon
Mon.	20	-	4:00	-	Library - Oriental Art
Tues.	21	-	2:00	-	Asiatic Study Group
"	21	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Wed.	22	-	8:00	-	Lecture - Chinese Textiles, Mr. Sickman
Thurs.	23	-	10:00	-	Library - Socrates: Delphi
"	23	-	1:00	-	Library - French Painting
Fri.	24	-	8:15	-	Concert - Pupils of Mrs. Miles Blinn

April

Sun.,	26	-	8:30	-	Concert - Pupils of Mrs. Paul Willson and Della Willson
Mon.	27	-	4:00	-	Library - Oriental Art
Tues.	28	-	10:00	-	Library - Book Club
"	28	-	10:00	-	Room B - Aspasia Delphians
"	28	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting
Wed.	29	-	8:00	-	Lecture - General Survey and the Gallery Collection - Mr. Sickman
Thurs.	30	-	4:00	-	Library - French Painting

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